

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [Project No. 14581-002]

Turlock Irrigation District, Modesto Irrigation District;

Notice of Application Accepted for Filing, Soliciting Motions to Intervene and Protests, Ready for Environmental Analysis, and Soliciting Comments, Recommendations, Preliminary Terms and Conditions, and Preliminary Fishway Prescriptions

Take notice that the following hydroelectric application has been filed with the Commission and is available for public inspection.

a. Type of Application: Major License

b. Project No.: 14581-002

c. Date filed: October 11, 2017

- d. Applicant: Turlock Irrigation District (TID) and Modesto Irrigation District (MID) (Districts)
- e. Name of Project: La Grange Hydroelectric Project
- f. Location: The La Grange Project is located on the Tuolumne River in Stanislaus and Tuolumne Counties, California. Portions of the project occupy public lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management.
- g. Filed Pursuant to: Federal Power Act, 16 USC 791(a) 825(r)
- h. Applicant Contacts: Steve Boyd, Turlock Irrigation District, 333 East Canal Drive, Turlock, California 95381-0949, (209) 883-8300; and Anna Brathwaite, Modesto Irrigation District, P.O. Box 4060, Modesto, CA 95352, (209) 526-7384
- i. FERC Contact: Jim Hastreiter at (503) 552-2760 or james.hastreiter@ferc.gov
- j. Deadline for filing motions to intervene and protests, comments, recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary prescriptions: 60 days from the

issuance date of this notice; reply comments are due 105 days from the issuance date of this notice.

The Commission strongly encourages electronic filing. Please file motions to intervene, protests, comments, recommendations, preliminary terms and conditions, and preliminary fishway prescriptions using the Commission's eFiling system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp. Commenters can submit brief comments up to 6,000 characters, without prior registration, using the eComment system at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/ecomment.asp. You must include your name and contact information at the end of your comments. For assistance, please contact FERC Online Support at FERCOnlineSupport@ferc.gov, (866) 208-3676 (toll free), or (202) 502-8659 (TTY). In lieu of electronic filing, please send a paper copy to: Secretary, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426. The first page of any filing should include docket number P-14581-002.

The Commission's Rules of Practice require all intervenors filing documents with the Commission to serve a copy of that document on each person on the official service list for the project. Further, if an intervenor files comments or documents with the Commission relating to the merits of an issue that may affect the responsibilities of a particular resource agency, they must also serve a copy of the document on that resource agency.

- k. This application has been accepted for filing and is now ready for environmental analysis.
- 1. The La Grange Project consists of the following existing facilities: (1) La Grange dam, a 310-foot-long, 131-foot-high, masonry arch dam; (2) La Grange reservoir with a storage capacity of about 500 acre-feet; (3) MID headworks, canal, and sluice gates are part of MID's retired irrigation canal facilities; (4) TID irrigation intake and tunnel; (5) a powerhouse with two Francis turbine-generator units with a maximum capacity of 4.9 megawatts. The project's estimated average annual generation is about 19,638 megawatt-hours.

The Districts propose to: (1) provide a minimum flow of approximately 5 to 10 cubic feet per second to the plunge pool downstream of La Grange diversion dam at all times; (2) install a fish exclusion barrier at the TID sluice channel entrance; (3) conduct dissolved oxygen monitoring in the vicinity of the La Grange powerhouse; (4) construct a recreational foot trail extending from the former Don Pedro Visitor Center parking lot to the La Grange headpond; and (5) develop an HPMP in consultation with Tribes, Bureau of Land Management, and State Historical Preservation Officer to manage potential effects on historic properties.

m. A copy of the application is available for review at the Commission in the Public Reference Room or may be viewed on the Commission's website at http://www.ferc.gov using the "eLibrary" link. Enter the docket number excluding the last three digits in the docket number field to access the document. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support. A copy is also available for inspection and reproduction at the address in item h above.

Register online at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/esubscription.asp to be notified via email of new filings and issuances related to this or other pending projects. For assistance, contact FERC Online Support.

n. Anyone may submit comments, a protest, or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.210, .211, and .214. In determining the appropriate action to take, the Commission will consider all protests or other comments filed, but only those who file a motion to intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules may become a party to the proceeding. Any comments, protests, or motions to intervene must be received on or before the specified comment date for the particular application.

All filings must (1) bear in all capital letters the title PROTEST, MOTION TO INTERVENE, COMMENTS, REPLY COMMENTS, RECOMMENDATIONS, PRELIMINARY TERMS AND CONDITIONS, or PRELIMINARY FISHWAY PRESCRIPTIONS; (2) set forth in the heading the name of the applicant and the project number of the application to which the filing responds; (3) furnish the name, address, and telephone number of the person protesting or intervening; and (4) otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 385.2001 through 385.2005. All comments, recommendations, terms and conditions or prescriptions must set forth their evidentiary basis and otherwise comply with the requirements of 18 CFR 4.34(b). Agencies may obtain copies of the application directly from the applicant. A copy of any protest or motion to intervene must be served upon each representative of the applicant specified in the particular application. A copy of all other filings in reference to this application must be accompanied by proof of service on all persons listed in the service list prepared by the Commission in this proceeding, in accordance with 18 CFR 4.34(b) and 385.2010.

o. Procedural Schedule:

The application will be processed according to the following revised Hydro Licensing Schedule. Revisions to the schedule may be made as appropriate.

MILESTONE TARGET DATE

Filing of recommendations, preliminary January 2018

terms and conditions, and preliminary

fishway prescriptions

Commission issues Draft Environmental August 2018

Statement (EIS)

Comments on Draft EIS

Modified Terms and Conditions

Commission Issues Final EIS

October 2018

December 2018

March 2019

p. Final amendments to the application must be filed with the Commission no later than 30 days from the issuance date of this notice.

q. A license applicant must file no later than 60 days following the date of issuance of the notice of acceptance and ready for environmental analysis provided for in 5.22: (1) a copy of the water quality certification; (2) a copy of the request for certification, including proof of the date on which the certifying agency received the request; or (3) evidence of waiver of water quality certification.

Dated: November 30, 2017.

Nathaniel J. Davis, Sr.,

Deputy Secretary.

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